

*Margarita Echevarria*

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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June 5, 1991

Hon. James Florio  
Governor of New Jersey  
Governor's Office  
CN 001  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Andrew Weber, Esq.  
Chief Counsel  
Governor's Office  
CN 001  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Governor Florio:

I am writing in support of Hector De Soto, Esq. for nomination as a Judge of the Superior Court in Essex County.

Mr. De Soto has been an attorney for fourteen years and has extensive litigation experience. He has also demonstrated exemplary leadership by developing community programs to ensure legal representation to poor Newark residents. A case in point is the Puerto Rican Legal Committee which he established with a number of peers while he was a student at Rutgers Law School. This program became the model adopted by Essex Newark Legal Services to assist Hispanic clients and today operates as the Hispanic Legal Clinic at Seton Hall Law School. He also assisted me in co-founding the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey which has been instrumental in encouraging Hispanics to enter the field of law and in addressing legal issues impacting on that community. Mr. De Soto enjoys the respect of the legal community as demonstrated by the fact that he was appointed by the Chief Justice to serve on the Supreme Court Task Force on Women in the Courts and the Essex County Attorney Ethics Committee.

In closing, Mr. De Soto has the experience and skills that would be an asset to the Essex County Superior Court and I hope that you will give him serious consideration.

Very truly yours,

*M. Echevarria*  
Margarita Echevarria

ME/SDT

*Margarita Echevarria*

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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May 31, 1991

The Honorable Richard J. Codey  
Senator 27th District  
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Dear Senator Codey:

As an Essex County resident I am concerned with who will fill the vacancies which will exist in Essex County Superior Court this year. In particular, I am concerned with who will fill the now vacant position of former Superior Court Judge John Dios, one of the two Hispanics serving as judges in Essex County.

The Hispanic community has a store of fine legal talent capable of filling any of the vacancies arising in this vicinage. One such distinguished attorney is Hector E. DeSoto. Mr. DeSoto has had an exemplary legal career with over fourteen years of experience in litigation, education and in general civil practice. Additionally, he has been active in the Hispanic community and understands the plight of the disenfranchised.

I strongly endorse Mr. DeSoto for an appointment to the Essex County Superior Court and hope you will similarly support his appointment.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

*M. Echevarria*

Margarita Echevarria,

ME/SDT